

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO.: EV 464 237 221 US

TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)  
CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER: Ace 12

U.S. APPLICATION NO.

Confirmation No.: Unknown

(If known, see 37 CFR 1.5): Unknown

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.: PCT/JP2004/007743

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE: May 28, 2004

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED: June 5, 2003

TITLE OF INVENTION: BUTT WELDING APPARATUS AND BUTT WELDING METHOD

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US: (1) Yutaka MIYAMOTO (2) Takao MINAGAWA (3) Shinichi INAGAKI  
and (4) Kiyoyuki FUKUI

Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:

1. ☒ This is a **FIRST** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
2. ☐ This is a **SECOND** or **SUBSEQUENT** submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3. ☐ This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below.
4. ☒ The US has been elected (Article 31).
5. ☐ A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
  - a. ☐ is attached hereto (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☐ has been communicated by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☐ is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).
6. ☒ An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))
  - a. ☒ is attached hereto.
  - b. ☐ has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
7. ☐ Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))
  - a. ☐ are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau).
  - b. ☐ have been communicated by the International Bureau.
  - c. ☐ have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.
  - d. ☐ have not been made and will not be made.
8. ☐ An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).
9. ☒ An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).
10. ☐ An English language translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).

**Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:**

11. ☐ An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.
12. ☐ An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
13. ☐ A preliminary amendment.
14. ☐ An Application Data Sheet under 37 CFR 1.76.
15. ☐ A substitute specification.
16. ☐ A power of attorney and/or change of address letter.
17. ☐ A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825.
18. ☐ A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
19. ☐ A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).
20. ☒ Other items or information:
  - a. Drawings (17 sheets)
  - b. Translator's Declaration and English language translation of Japanese Application No. 2003-160548
  - c. Copy of cover sheet for WO 2004/108340 with International Search Report
  - d. Acknowledgement Postal Card

U.S. APPLICATION NO.  
(if known, see 37 CFR 1.5):  
Unknown

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO.:

PCT/JP2004/007743

10/523579

DT05 Rec'd PCT/PTO 28 JAN 2005  
ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER:

Acc 12

21. [X] The following fees are submitted:

Calculations PTO USE ONLY

BASIC NATIONAL STAGE FEE: ..... \$ 300.00  
NATIONAL STAGE SEARCH FEE: ..... \$ 500.00  
NATIONAL STAGE EXAMINATION FEE:..... \$ 200.00  
NATIONAL STAGE APPLICATION SIZE FEE: ..... \$  
  
NATIONAL STAGE FEES = \$ 1,000.00

Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(e)).

\$

CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	
Total claims	22 - 20 =	2	X \$ 50.00	\$ 100.00
Ind. claims	2 - 3 =	0	X \$200.00	\$
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIM(S) (if applicable)			+ \$360.00	\$
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS			=	\$ 1,100.00

[ ] Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.

SUBTOTAL

- \$  
= \$

Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than 30 months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492(f)).

TOTAL NATIONAL FEE

+ \$  
= \$

Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31). \$40.00 per property

TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED

+ \$  
= \$ 1,100.00

Amount to be refunded: \$  
charged: \$

a. [X] A check in the amount of \$1,100.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.

b. [ ] Please charge my Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

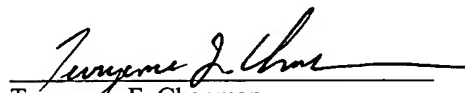
c. [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1382. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.

IN DUPLICATE

PLEASE DIRECT CORRESPONDENCE TO THE ADDRESS  
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300.12/04  
Form PTO-1390 Page 2 of 2

  
Terryene F. Chapman  
Registration Number: 32 549  
TFC\pcq

FLYNN, THIEL, BOUTELL & TANIS, P.C.  
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Kalamazoo, Michigan 49008-1631

10/523579

PATENT APPLICATION

Express Mail Label No.: EV 464 237 221 US <sup>DT05 Rec'd PCT/PTO</sup> 28 JAN 2005

Date of Mailing: Jan. 28, 2005

Applicant(s) : Yutaka MIYAMOTO, et al  
For : BUTT WELDING APPARATUS AND BUTT WELDING  
METHOD

PCT International Application No.: PCT/JP2004/007743

PCT International Filing Date: May 28, 2004

U.S. Application No.

(if known, see 37 CFR 1.5): Unknown

Atty. Docket No.: Ace 12

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

EXPRESS MAILING CERTIFICATE

Sir:

I hereby certify that the attached paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

FLYNN, THIEL, BOUTELL & TANIS, P.C.

By: Olivia Schuppen

Date: Jan. 28, 2005

Document(s) attached: Form PT-1390 (in duplicate) with all enclosures listed thereon

Telephone: (269) 381-1156

391.05/03